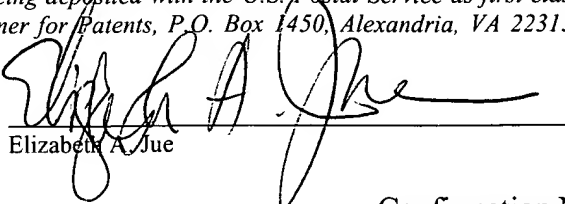




PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

*I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on November 29, 2005.*

  
Elizabeth A. Jue

Appl No. : 09/845,754 Confirmation No. 3682  
Applicant : Albert A. Reff  
Filed : May 1, 2001  
Title : METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROVIDING INVENTORY  
CONTROL OF MEDICAL OBJECTS  
  
TC/A.U. : 3627  
Examiner : Maria Teresa T. Thein  
  
Docket No. : 52585/R631  
Customer No. : 23363

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Post Office Box 7068  
Pasadena, CA 91109-7068  
November 29, 2005

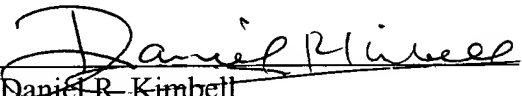
Commissioner:

In response to the restriction requirement mailed September 29, 2005, Applicant hereby elects, without traverse, Group I (claims 1-10 and 17-19), which is drawn to an apparatus for providing inventory control of medical objects comprising: a scanner; a counter for receiving the signal from the scanning device and determine a first count of the medical objects before the surgical procedure and a second count of the medical objects after the surgical procedure; and a reconciling device for receiving the first and second counts from the counter and for comparing

Appln No. 09/845,754  
Response date November 29, 2005  
Reply to Office action of September 29, 2005

the first count and the second count to determining if the first count equals the second count,  
classified in class 705, subclass 29.

Respectfully submitted,  
CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP

By   
Daniel R. Kimbell  
Reg. No. 34,849  
626/795-9900

DRK/eaj  
EAJ PAS654851.1-\* -11/29/05 9:15 AM